

HE IS HERE, AND HE IS NOT SILENT

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Text: Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

Introduction: God Often Seems Distant and Silent

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."
(Malachi 4:5-6)

Despite Appearances, God is Always Working

"Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord." (Luke 1:13-15)

When He Speaks, He Expects Us to Believe

"And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."" (Luke 1:18-20)

Through Jesus He is Ever Present to Us

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David," (Luke 1:68-69)